Fund of Rs. 10,000 crore under SIDBI, enhancement of credit limit under Laghu Udayami Credit Card (LUCC) from Rs. 2 lakh to Rs. 10 lakh based on satisfactory track record, etc.

National Commission for problems of SSIs

2359. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a National Commission to examine the problems faced by the small scale industries sector;

(b) the current problems being faced by the SSI sector; and

(c) the action plan of Government to address the key issues of credit, provide them marketing support and development of infrastructure in the SSI clusters?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Under its Resolution No. 5/2/2004-ICC dated 20th September, 2004, the Government has set up the National Commission on Enterprises in the Unorganised/Informal Sector.

(b) and (c) The major problems faced by the small scale industries (SSIs) sector relate to lack of timely and adequate availability of credit, obsolete technology, infrastructure bottlenecks, marketing constraints, etc. The Government implements various schemes for improving flow of credit, technology upgradation, infrastructure assistance through cluster development approach, marketing support, etc. Further, in its National Common Minimum Programme, the Government has announced early formulation of a major promotional package for the SSI sector to give it full credit, technological and markeing support.

Development of SSIs in Kashmir valley

2360. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Kashmir valley has no industrial sector-public or private;

(b) whether Kashmir has only cottage industries sector and there is ample scope for development of small scale industries; and

(c) whether Government would like to consider to set up capital light industries in the small scale sector in Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir. As per Annual Survey of Industries 2001-02 (latest available) conducted by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), 348 factories (both private and public) were functioning in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

(b) Based on the results of the Third All India Census of registered small scale industrial (SSIs) units and the sample survey of unregistered SSI units with the reference year 2001-02, an estimated 73,125 SSI/Tiny units (both registered and unregistered), including cottage industries, were functioning in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Out of these, 26493 units were located in the Kashmir valley. There is scope for further development of small scale industries in this State.

(c) SSI units are set up by private entrepreneurs. However, for the promotion and development of the SSI sector, the Central Government assists and supplements the efforts of the State Governments concerned by implementing various schemes relating to fiscal and credit support, infrastructural development, technology upgradation, marketing and entrepreneurial development, etc. The Government has also announced, under the new industrial policy, a set of incentives and concessions for the State of Jammu & Kashmir which, *inter-alia,* includes incentives for establishment of new indusrial units and substantial expansion of existing units, development of industrial infrastructure, setting up of design-cum-research centre for footwear and leather industry, setting up of Jammu & Kashmir Development Finance Corporation etc.

Indo-Russia agreement for space navigation system

2361. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Russia have signed an agreement to build a Space Navigation System for civilian purposes;

(b) if so, whether India would have to make any financial contribution to this venture;

(c) the gains to India from this venture;